

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appl. No. 09/774,877

AR it is possible to see which position of the cross-sectional positions of images S1, S4, O1 and O4 is currently being displayed. This type of display layout is called a stack display, and by displaying such a stack display it is possible to compare image S2 to image O2, and image S4 to image O4; that is to say, comparing the images obtained in the past examination to the images obtained in the current examination is easy to perform. In addition, if switching of the images of the past examination and images of the present examination is carried out at the same time, by switching only the images on one side, because the images on the other side are also sent in order, it is easy to compare the images on both sides. This type of image protocol is designated as P2.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 13-21 are added as new claims.

Sub C1 13 (New). The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of display protocols include multiple images, and wherein protocol sequence includes at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order.

A3 14 (New). The apparatus of claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of display protocols include multiple images and wherein the control means controls at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order.

15 (New). The medium of claim 9, wherein each of the plurality of display protocols include multiple images and wherein the protocol sequence includes at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order.

16 (New). The method of claim 2, wherein protocol sequence includes at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order and wherein the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/774,877

protocol sequence can be switched to a different protocol sequence prior to reaching a last display protocol of the protocol sequence.

17 (New). The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the control means controls at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order and wherein the protocol sequence can be switched to a different protocol sequence prior to reaching a last display protocol of the protocol sequence.

A3 18 (New). The medium of claim 10, wherein protocol sequence includes at least two of the plurality of display protocols to be arranged in a predetermined temporal order and wherein the protocol sequence can be switched to a different protocol sequence prior to reaching a last display protocol of the protocol sequence.

19 (New). The method of claim 1, wherein the display protocols, each comprising multiple images, are switched automatically based on the protocol sequence.

20 (New). The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control means switches the display protocols, each comprising multiple images, automatically based on the protocol sequence.

21 (New). The medium of claim 9, wherein the display protocols, each comprising multiple images, are switched automatically based on the protocol sequence.
